# Little Current River Provincial Park

# Interim Management Statement

Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

Mary Mogford
Deputy Minister

# Little Current River Provincial Park

# Interim Management Statement

Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Additional copies of this publication are obtainable only from:

Geraldton District Office
P.O. Box 640
208 Beamish Avenue, West
Geraldton, Ontario
P0T 1M0
Telephone: (807) 854-1030

© 1985 Government of Ontario

Printed in Ontario, Canada

November, 1985

REGIONAL DIRECTORS APPROVAL STATEMENT

This Interim Management Statement will provide interim direction for the management of the Little Current River until a comprehensive Park Management Plan is prepared.

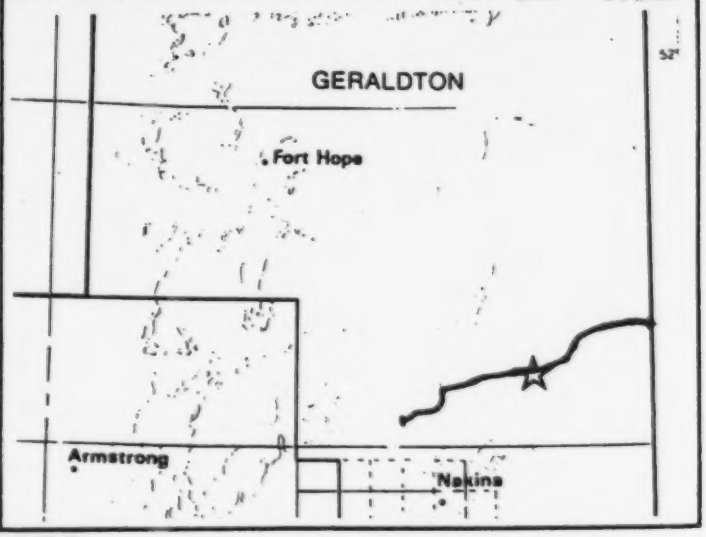
This statement will provide the basis for the subsequent preparation of the Park Management Plan.

I am pleased to approve this Interim Management Statement for the Little Current River.

G. P. Elliott
Regional Director
North Central Region

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| **NAME:** Little Current River | **REGIONAL SETTING MAP** SCALE 1mm = 3.1km |
| **PROPOSED CLASS:** WA | |
| **M.N.R. DISTRICT:** Geraldton | |
| **M.N.R. REGION:** NCR | |
| **TOTAL AREA(ha):** 9,800 **LAND:** 5,180 **WATER:** 4,620 | |
| **SITE REGION:** 3W; 2W; 2E | |
| **SITE DISTRICT:** 1; 3; 1 | |
| **DATE In REGULATION:** | |




## TARGETS

### 1 LIFE SCIENCE REPRESENTATION

| site type/landscape unit | species/communities |
|---|---|
| Undocumented | |

### 2 EARTH SCIENCE REPRESENTATION

| geological theme | feature |
|---|---|
| Driftwood Stadial<br>Timiskaming Interstadial<br>Others undocumented | Cochrane Advance clay till, fluted terrain<br>shoreline features and lake clays of Barlow-Ojibway |

### 3 CULTURAL RESOURCE REPRESENTATION

| theme | theme segment |
|---|---|
| Unknown<br>(high potential for sites) | |

### 4 RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

| day use | car camping | wilderness/back country |
|---|---|---|
| N/A | N/A | 7,000 |

### INVENTORIES

| level \ type | earth science | life science | cultural | recreational | other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| reconnaissance completion date | | | | | |
| detailed completion date | | | | | |
| required? | detailed inventory | detailed inventory | detailed inventory | detailed inventory | mining pot'l survey |

**DATE** 5.03.84

## MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

### I Land Tenure, Acquisition/Disposal

The park boundary commences where the Little Current River flows eastward out of Superb Lake. The boundary is defined as an area 200 meters on either side of the waterway from the point of commencement to the eastern boundary of the Geraldton District. However, the area between Farrell Lake and Percy Lake does not constitute a portion of the park (see Map No.2). This area is covered by leased and patented mining claims, and the land under water is covered by licence of occupation. Portions of 9 leased and 16 patented claims fall within this 200 meter area. All of these claims, except one, have the surface rights 122 meters from the waterway reserved to the Crown. The surface rights were reserved at the time the patents and leases were granted.

In addition, there are 4 land use permits that have been issued for outpost camp sites along the waterway. Each site occupies about 0.4 hectares.

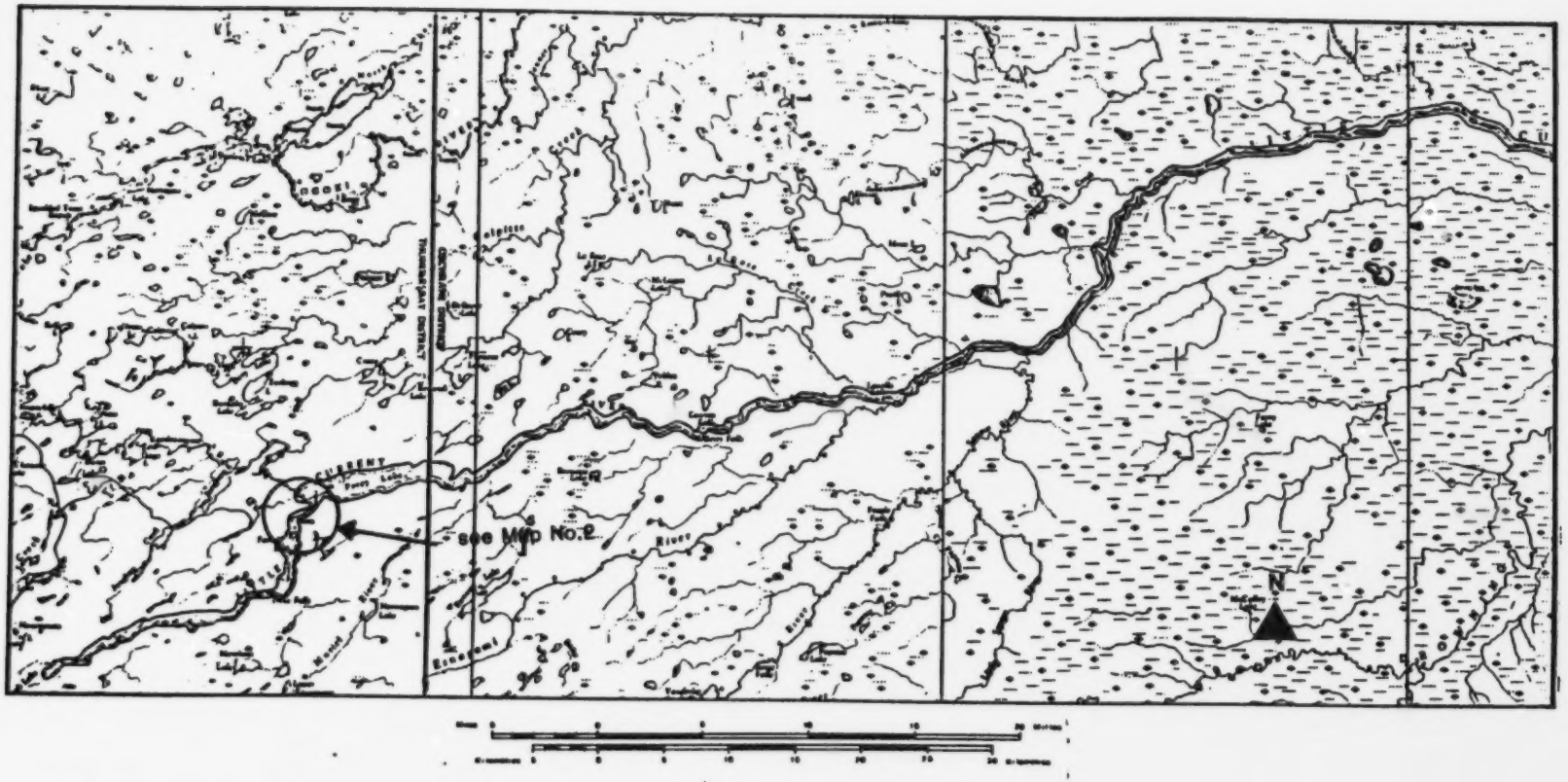
A portion of the Little Current River was designated as a Crown Reserve for the purpose of a wild river park, in 1975 (see Appendix A).

Guidelines:

-the Crown will not acquire any of the patented or leased land within the park area. However, the area will be withdrawn from staking within 200 meters of the waterway so that the land will revert to the Crown should the tenure lapse for any reason;

-MNR will meet with company and/or individuals involved, to discuss opportunities for maintenance of scenic values through patented and leased areas;

-annual renewal of land use permits will occur.

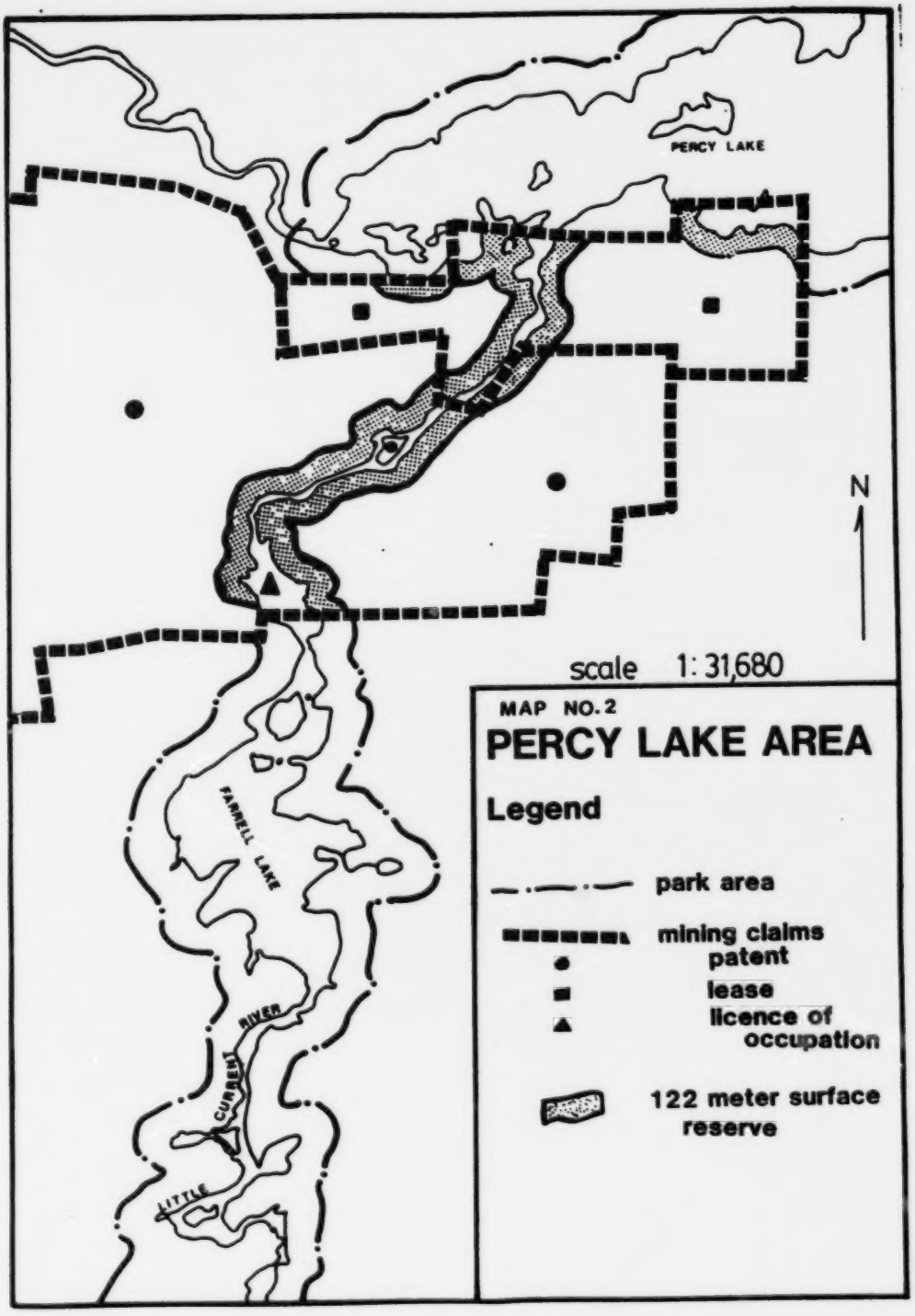



MAP NO. 1

LITTLE CURRENT RIVER WATERWAY PARK

Legend

park boundary


PERCY LAKE
N
scale 1: 31,680
MAP NO. 2
PERCY LAKE AREA
Legend
park area
mining claims
patent
lease
licence of occupation
122 meter surface reserve
FARRELL LAKE
CURRENT RIVER
LITTLE

## II Existing/Proposed Developments

Access may be gained to the park by flying in, or from an access point on the Kawashkagama River (west of O'Sullivan Lake), through O'Sullivan Lake and Superb Lake. It is possible that trails might develop into the river system from logging road development adjacent to the waterway. It is also likely that if this occured, unauthorized boat caches will develop.

The locations and condition of the campsites along the river system are unknown. The condition of the portages is also unknown.

Guidelines:

-it is not possible to prevent walk-in trails to the river from adjacent roads, however, new boat caches will not be permitted to develop within the park area (see Section IV, 1. Tourism). No vehicular access will be allowed except as may be determined by a management plan;

-an inventory of existing campsites and portages will be carried out;

-various methods of carrying out regular park maintenance will be investigated.

## III Recreational Activities

Canoeing, sport fishing and hunting are the primary recreational activities that occur within the waterway park. There is no direct road access, consequently the level of use is not thought to be very high.

Guidelines:

-sport fishing will continue to be a permitted use in this waterway park;

-sport hunting will be permitted to continue;

-motor boating associated with these uses is also permitted.

## IV Commercial Activities

### 1. Tourism

There are four outpost camps within the park boundary, two on Percy Lake, one on each of Farrell and Two Mile Lakes (see Map No.3) The camps on Percy and Farrell Lakes are fly-in access locations; the camp on Two Mile Lake is accessed by boat from the tourist camp on the Kawashkagama River. There are several commercial boat caches along the waterway to ease the travel over the portages. There is no land tenure or authorization associated with these locations. In addition, the tourist operator on Esnagami Lake outfits parties who travel along the Esnagami River to the Little Current River where they are picked up by plane.

Guidelines:

-the outpost camps will be permitted to continue their operations. The boat caches by the commercial operator will be a permissible use, but no other commercial boat caches may develop;

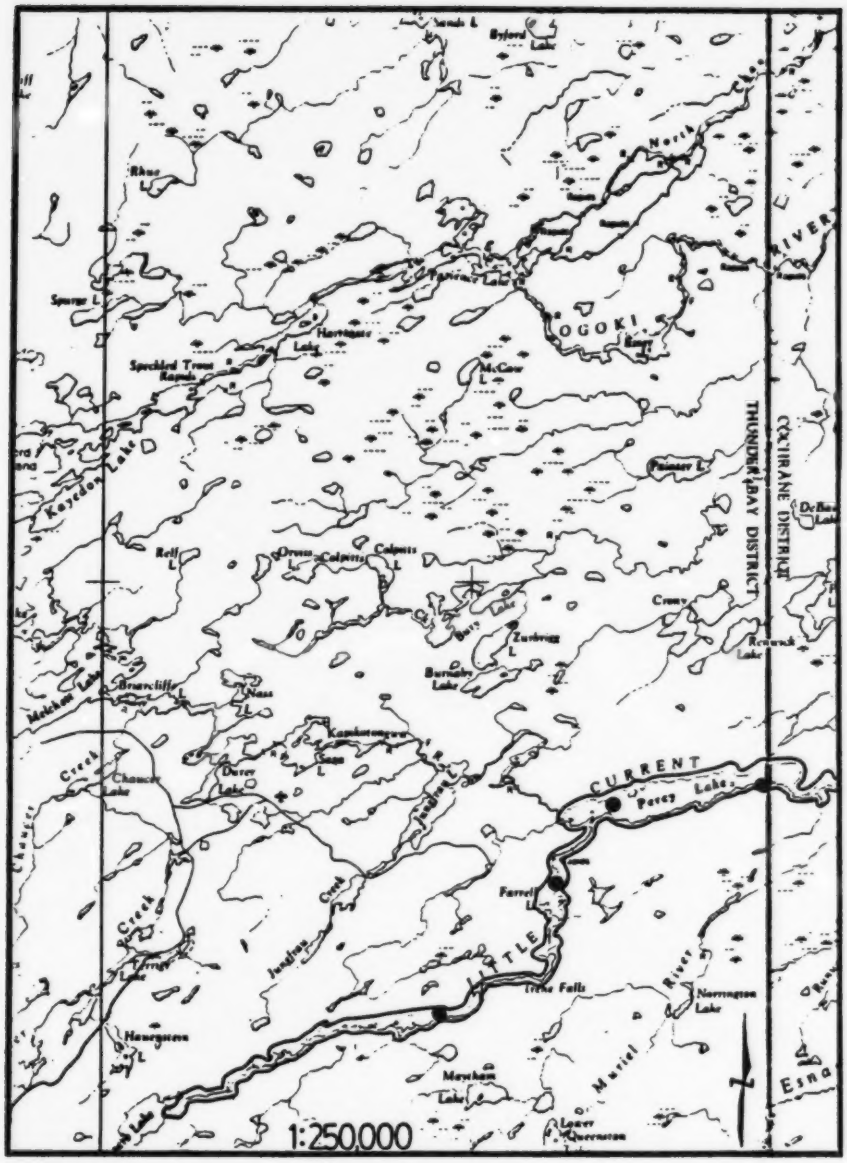
-aircraft landings will be permitted in the entire park area however, other than at the outpost camp locations, no additional docking facilities or associated uses will be permitted.

-outpost camps may be transfered from one operator to another but no expansion of use is permitted pending completion of a management plan;

-no additional commercial tourism development will occur, pending completion of a management plan.

### 2. Trapping

There are portions of five traplines within the park boundary. There are no known trapper's cabins although there may be some unrecorded locations.




**MAP NO. 3**

**LITTLE CURRENT RIVER WATERWAY PARK**
**- TOURISM DEVELOPMENT -**

**Legend**

- park boundary
- outpost camp

Guidelines:

-trapping will continue to be a permitted use in this waterway park;

-any existing trapping cabins will be permitted to remain, however all new developments will be encouraged to locate outside of the park boundary.

3. Forestry

The Little Current River Waterway Park passes through two management units, the Kimberly-Clark of Canada Company Management Unit and the Little Current Crown Management Unit (see Map No. 4). The Little Current CMU is not scheduled for harvesting in the foreseeable future.

Harvesting has taken place adjacent to the waterway and more is scheduled to occur within the period of Kimberly-Clark's operating plan (see Map No.4). Road development (the Hauenstein and Farrell Road systems) is also occurring and will come to within 300 meters of the waterway at the closest point. The Hauenstein Road has been gated where it joins the Anaconda Road and this also controls access on the Farrell Road. The purpose of the gate is to ensure that the Terrier Lake gate is not circumvented and public access gained to the mining facilities at Melchett Lake.

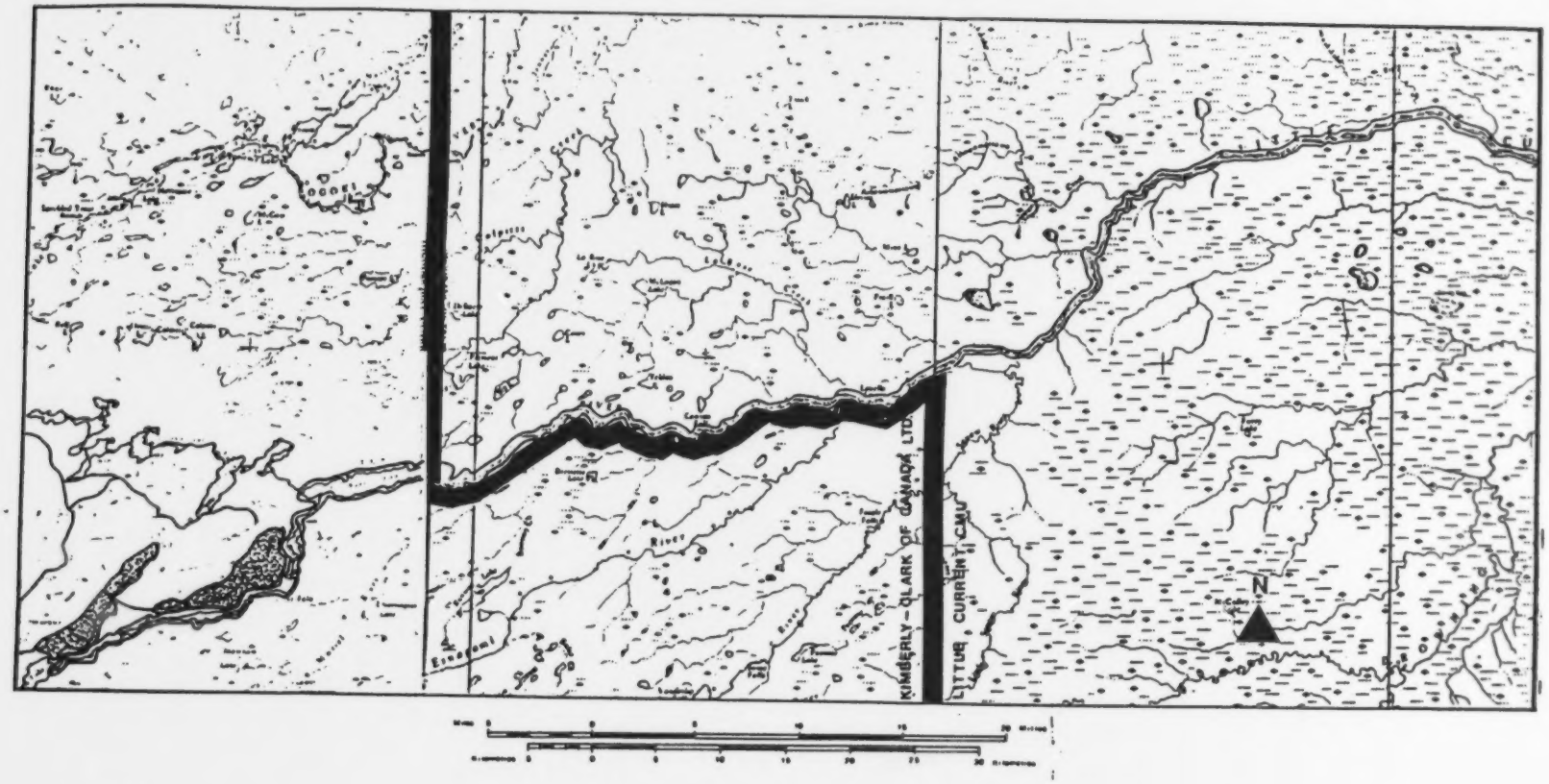
Guidelines:

-no timber harvesting will occur within the park boundary other than for use as firewood;

-no road development will occur within, or across, the park;

-the gate on the Hauenstein Road serves the park management objectives at the present. The presence of the park will be considered during any discussions to open the road to public travel;

-in the event that the Hauenstein Road is open to public travel, access to the park will be controlled as stated in Section II.




MAP NO. 4

LITTLE CURRENT RIVER WATERWAY PARK - TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Legend

- park boundary
- licence boundary
- operating plan area
- existing road
- planned road

4. Mineral Resources

The patented and leased land between Percy and Farrell Lakes covers an identified iron ore deposit. There has been some recent staking around the north end of Superb Lake but none has occured within the park area. The park area is now withdrawn from staking.

Guidelines:

-exploration is permitted under an exploratory licence of occupation ;

-although the area covered by the leased and patent lands does not constitute part of the park, should any development of the identified ore body occur, MNR will attempt to protect the aesthetic value of the river system along this stretch.

## V Natural and Cultural Resources

Superb Lake has a lake trout population and there are many areas along the waterway which have sensitive brook trout populations. No other sensitive areas have been identified.

No archaeological inventory has been carried out.

Guidelines:

-sensitive areas will be recorded and appropriately managed as they are identified.

## VI Client Services and Marketing

The Little Current River is not documented as a canoe route and it is not listed in Ministry publications such as Canoe Routes of Ontario.

Guidelines:

-Geraldton District will document the Little Current River as a canoe route. The information will be used to prepare a canoe route pamphlet for public distribution;

-Geraldton District will request that the Little Current be listed in any subsequent canoe route publications.

SOURCES/REFERENCES

1. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Map Nos. G-193, G-201, G-212, G-305, G-309, G-336, G-377, G-414, G-429; Scale 1"= 40 chains; 1981.

2. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Trapline Map, Commercial Fishing Map; Scale 1:250,000, 1984.

3. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Geraldton District Land Use Guidelines (unreleased); 1983.

4. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Forest Resource Inventory Map Nos. 505863, 505864, 506861, 506862, 506863; Scale 1:15,840; revised 1974.

5. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Geraldton District Office Files; Geraldton, 1984.

6. Park Impact Assessment Sheet, Little Current River.

# APPENDIX A: LITTLE CURRENT RIVER CROWN RESERVE

# CROWN RESERVE INVENTORY RECORD

1. District Geraldton

2. Name of Area/Reserve Part of Little Current R

WRR-4

3. Type B (A, B or C) Order Number W64/75 (for Type B & C)

4.

| | Acres | Hectares |
|---|---|---|
| Land + Water | 6,208 | 2,512 |
| Water | | |
| TOTAL | 6,208 | 2,512 |

5. Location Description Start Long. 86°29' to Long. 85°20'

6. Latitude

7. Longitude 86°29' Start

8. Map Plan No. T-

M-

9. Area Name

10. Purpose of Reservation Wild River Park Reserve

11. Date Laid Down (Reserved) November 14, 1975

12. Requested by whom (user group) Parks Branch

13. Present Use (a) same as No. 10 or Same as No. 10

14. Confirmation - Site will meet Criteria of Purpose
Site meets criteria of purpose

15. General Description of Physical Features

(a) Topography Information not available

(b) Forest Cover Jack pine, black spruce, white birch and poplar

(c) Soil Depth & Texture Information not available

(d) Wet Beach Sand and boulders

Dry Beach Sand and boulders

16. Means of Access

Canoe or aircraft